rural areas, BSNL under its "Internet Dhaba" scheme provides one free Internet access connection along with 25% discount on the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) access charges to the franchisee of Internet Dhabas in the Rural Block Headquarters

DIT has also taken up an initiative for setting up of Common Public Information Centres (CICs) in the hilly, far-flung areas of the country for socio-economic developments of these regions. CICs are a citizen's interface for IT enabled e-government services and are provided with VSAT connectivity and computer peripherals.

487 CICs at block level have been set up in the 8 North Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. DIT has set up 116 CICs in Jammu & Kashmir and 7 CICs in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Insurance scheme for postal department employees

292. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to implement an insurance scheme for the unorganised workers of the postal department;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of unorganised workers who would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No. Sir There are no unorganised workers in the Department of Posts.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Telecommunication links on Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan

293. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish telecommunication links for better border management, particularly 1040 km long Indo-Pak border, in Rajasthan;